should be issued by banks only by debit to customers' account and not against cash payment. Similarly, such payments for Rs. 50,000 and above are to be made through banking channels and not in cash.

(b) and (c) RBI has informed that no case of non-implementation of the directive has been reported so far.

217 Textile

Increase in REP for Garment Exports

2482. SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have received any representation from the Garment Exporters Association regarding the increase in REP for garment exports; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT) (a) and (b) Government have received representations from sections of Garment export Trade for higher REP. Government have noted the suggestions.

217

Increase in quantity of Gold Coins and Bullion

2483. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT
SHRIMATI MAHENDRA KUMARI
SHRI MAHESH KUMAR KANODIA } ,

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the gold coins and bullion held by the country have increased during the years 1988-89 and 1989-90; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Gold coins and bullion held by the Reserve Bank of India increased by 7·574 MT during 1989-90, while there was no increase during 1988-89. Gold coins and bullion held in Government account increased by 4·10 MT during 1988-89 and by 1.392 MT during 1989-90. There are no estimates of the total quantity or increases thereof in the gold coins and bullion held by private parties/institutions in the country.

218 Uttar Pradesh

[*Translation*]

Opening of Zonal Office of Bank of Baroda at Bareilly

2484. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any requests to open a zonal office of the Bank of Baroda at Bareilly (U.P.); and

(b) if so, the time by which the zonal office is likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) NO such request appears to have been received.

(b) Does not arise.

218

Shortage of Foreign Exchange

2485. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news items captioned "PSUs fear stoppage of foreign supplies due to forex crunch" appearing in the Indian Express of July 1, 1991;

(b) if so, what are the difficulties being faced by the public sector undertakings due to shortage of foreign exchange; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to remove these difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Due to severe balance of payments crisis in the recent past, it has become necessary to conserve foreign exchange through a series of measures which imposed some difficulties on those undertakings which are dependent on foreign exchange availability for their operations. The restriction on the total imports through import compression measures, recourse to suppliers' credit or commercial loans; and availing of institutional lines of credits contributed to difficulties in terms of the level and cost of operations of such undertakings.

(c) The difficulties being faced by public sector undertakings and other users of foreign exchange are sought to be removed by a series of steps, mainly in terms of improving the level of foreign exchange reserves in the short-run and bringing about a reduction in the current account deficit in the balance of payment in the medium term.

[*English*]

Private buses plying under DTC and STA Permits

2486. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of private buses plying under D.T.C. and S.T.A. permits in Delhi found to have removed seats from the buses and the action taken against the owners of erring vehicles and to ensure the non-recurrence thereof in future;

(b) the number of buses whose seats have gone hard over the time and have not been replaced with cushioned and comfortable seat and the action taken to ensure the replacement of all hard seats with cushioned seats;

(c) the number of buses in which glass panes and handle bars are missing and the steps taken to ensure the putting in of handle bars and glass panes for the comfort and safety of commuters;

(d) whether the general cleanliness and maintenance of the buses are far from satisfactory; and

(e) if so, the action taken to improve the general get up of the buses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) : (a) to (c) As per survey carried out, of the 629 P.O. buses under DTC on 1-8-1991, 107 P.O. buses were found to have removed seats, 45 buses were having hard seats and 303 buses were having glass panes and handle bars missing.

D.T.C. have issued show cause notices to the owners of defaulting private buses with a view to removing the deficiencies.

Delhi Admn. have informed that their mobile enforcement team have cancelled the certificate of fitness of 331 private buses during the period 1-1-91 to 30-6-91.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of (d) above.

Evasion of Corporate Tax

2487. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news item captioned 'Corporate giants do not pay corporate tax' appearing in the Indian Express of June 19, 1991;

(b) if so, the particulars of the companies which have evaded the payment of corporate tax;

(c) the amount of corporate tax evaded by each of these companies and since when; and

(d) the action taken to recover all the dues from them?